

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are now present in this application.

The Examiner has issued an Election of Species Requirement between the following species;

Species I: Fig.4;

Species II: Fig.13; and

Species III: Figs.9-12.

In response to this Election of Species Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Species II, Fig.13. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11-13, 15, 16, 19 and 20 should read on this elected species. This election is with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that all species I-III pertain to a composite plate and that it should be no undue burden on the Examiner to consider all claims in the single application. Moreover, because at least generic claims 1 4, 11-13 and 16 should be in condition for allowance, this Election of Species Requirement should also be overcome and withdrawn.

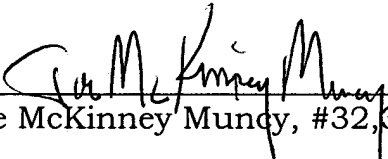
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Joe McKinney Mundy, #32,334

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

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